

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

DATE 7/10/03 LABEL NO. CUS20039494US

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT ON THE DATE INDICATED ABOVE I DEPOSITED THIS PAPER OR FEE WITH THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE AND THAT IT WAS ADDRESSED FOR DELIVERY TO THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS & TRADEMARKS, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450 BY "EXPRESS MAIL POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE" SERVICE.

Jef Sausa

Doc. No. 10884

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: David Schlereth

Serial No: Group Art Unit:

Filed: Herewith

For: Suture Needle with Means for Securing A Suture In A Swaged End

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Hon. Commissioner of
Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In order to comply with 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, attached hereto is a copy of Form PTO-1449 and a copy of the documents listed thereon. These documents contain information which the Examiner should consider during examination of the present application.

In accordance with MPEP Sections 609 and 707.05(b), it is requested that the documents cited be given thorough consideration and that it be cited of record in the prosecution history of the present application by initialing Form PTO-1449 next to the document. Such initialing is requested even if the Examiner does

not consider the cited documents to be sufficiently pertinent to use in a rejection, or otherwise does not consider it to be prior art for any reason, or even if the Examiner does not believe that the guidelines for citation have been fully complied with. This is requested so that each document becomes listed on the face of the patent issuing on the present application.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR 1.56, but the citation of these documents is not to be construed as an admission that such documents are necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is intended that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner, in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR 1.104(a) and, in the course of each search, will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form even if not initialed.

Early and favorable consideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT

(Use Several Sheets if Necessary)

DOCKET NO.: 10884 SERIAL NO:
APPLICANT: David Schlereth
FILING DATE: HEREWITH
TITLE: Suture Needle with Means for Securing A Suture In A Swaged End

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER <u>INITIALS</u>	DOCUMENT <u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>CLASS</u>	<u>SUBCLASS</u>	<u>FILING DATE</u>
	5,908,426	6/1/1999	Pierce	606	139	4/24/1997
	5,755,729	5/26/1998	de la Torre et al	606	148	12/18/1995
	5,234,438	8/10/1993	Semrad	606	108	8/3/1992
	5,919,199	7/6/1999	Mers Kelly et al	606	139	1/14/1998

EXAMINER: _____ DATE CONSIDERED: _____

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and no considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.